



UPDATE

September 15, 2013

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*Prepared by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services,
National Institutes of Health, National Institute of Mental Health,
Office of Constituency Relations and Public Liaison*

VA COLLABORATES WITH COMMUNITIES TO HELP VETERANS ACCESS MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT

In recognition of September as Suicide Prevention Month, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is mobilizing people and organizations nationwide to support Veterans in crisis and spread the word about VA mental health services. Throughout the month, VA suicide prevention coordinators at all 151 VA medical centers will organize community events, host health fairs, lead training sessions, and work with VA Voluntary Service to improve Veterans' lives. VA is also launching a new Suicide Prevention Month public service announcement, *Talking About It Matters* nationwide in September.

Press Release: <http://www.va.gov/opa/pressrel/pressrelease.cfm?id=2476>

WORLD SUICIDE PREVENTION DAY 2013: A STATEMENT BY HHS SECRETARY

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Kathleen Sebelius issued a statement in observance of World Suicide Prevention Day. Suicide is a serious public health problem, but suicide is also a preventable public health challenge, one in which all can play a role.

Press Release: <http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2013pres/09/20130910a.html>

LIFESTYLE INTERVENTION IMPROVES HIGH SCHOOLERS' HEALTH, SOCIAL SKILLS, GRADES

A teacher-delivered intervention program promoting healthy lifestyles improved health behaviors, social skills, severe depression, and academic performance in high school adolescents, a study has found. Routine integration of such programs into health education curricula in high school settings may be an effective way to prevent high-risk teen populations from becoming overweight or obese, and could lead to improved physical health, psychosocial skills, and academic outcomes, according to the study. The study, supported by the National Institute of Nursing Research appears in the online September issue of the *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*. It is one of the first studies to report multiple immediate improvements that were sustained over time using a teacher-delivered, cognitive-behavioral skills-building intervention program incorporated into a high school health education class.

Press Release: <http://www.nih.gov/news/health/sep2013/ninr-10.htm>

NIH LAUNCHES FIRST NATIONAL DOWN SYNDROME REGISTRY; REGISTRY CONNECTS FAMILIES AND INDIVIDUALS WITH DOWN SYNDROME TO RESEARCHERS

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) has launched *DS-Connect*, a web-based health registry that will serve as a national health resource for people with Down syndrome and their families, researchers, and health care providers. Participation in the registry is free and voluntary. Individuals with Down syndrome, or family members, on their behalf, may sign up to create personalized profiles with information about their health histories, including symptoms, diagnoses, and medical visits. The website has been designed to ensure that all information remains confidential. The site will separate users' names from their health information, so that individuals may compare their health information with that of all other participants in an anonymous manner. If participants give permission to be contacted, the registry coordinator can inform them of research studies in which they may be interested. Results from these studies will help researchers better understand Down syndrome and how to treat its accompanying health problems across the lifespan.

Press Release: <http://www.nih.gov/news/health/sep2013/nichd-06.htm>

NATIONAL SURVEY SHOWS CONTINUED REDUCED LEVELS OF PRESCRIPTION DRUG USE AMONG YOUNG ADULTS; REPORT ALSO SHOWS CONTINUED REDUCED RATES OF ALCOHOL USE AMONG THOSE AGED 12 TO 17

The rate of past month nonmedical use of prescription drugs among young adults aged 18 to 25 in 2012 was 5.3 percent – similar to rates in 2010 and 2011, but significantly lower than the rate from 2009, according to a new report by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). SAMHSA issued its *2012 National Survey on Drug Use and Health* report in conjunction with the 24th annual national observance of National Recovery Month. The SAMHSA report also found that the rates of past month drinking, binge drinking, and heavy drinking among underage adolescents aged 12 to 17 remained lower than their levels in 2002 and 2009.

Press Release: <http://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/advisories/1309033910.aspx>

NEARLY 18 PERCENT OF PREGNANT WOMEN DRINK ALCOHOL IN EARLY STAGES OF PREGNANCY; LEVELS OF ALCOHOL USE DROP IN LATER STAGES OF PREGNANCY

Approximately 18 percent of women in their first trimester of pregnancy used alcohol within the past month according to a new SAMHSA report. The report showed that 6.6 percent of women in their first trimester of pregnancy engaged in binge drinking (i.e., drinking five or more drinks on the same occasion at least once in the past 30 days). Women who drink alcohol while pregnant increase their infants' risk of developing a Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder, a group of conditions that can cause physical, behavioral and learning problems – some of which may have lifelong repercussions. Although there is no safe amount of alcohol for pregnant women to drink, they can lower the risk for their infants when they stop drinking alcohol immediately after finding out they are pregnant.

Press Release: <http://www.samhsa.gov/newsroom/advisories/1309064526.aspx>

NEW ON NIMH WEBSITE

DIRECTOR'S BLOG: ACCESSING AND ASSESSING SCIENCE: FROM PLOS TO DORA

National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) Director Thomas Insel discusses the challenge of assessing the quality of scientific research in a new era of open access publishing.

<http://www.nimh.nih.gov/about/director/2013/accessing-and-assessing-science-from-plos-to-dora.shtml>

SUICIDE PREVENTION RESEARCH ON NPR'S SCIENCE FRIDAY

On Friday, August 30, Jane Pearson, Ph.D., chair of the Suicide Research Consortium at NIMH, appeared on National Public Radio's *Science Friday* to discuss ways research is trying to prevent this pressing issue.

<http://www.nimh.nih.gov/news/science-news/2013/jane-pearson-talks-about-suicide-prevention-research-on-nprs-science-friday.shtml>

NIMH TWITTER CHAT ON SUICIDE PREVENTION: ARCHIVED

To commemorate World Suicide Prevention Day on September 10, 2013, NIMH hosted a Twitter chat on the topic. The archived chat can be found at: <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/health/twitter-chats/index.shtml>

MEETING SUMMARY: ALLIANCE FOR RESEARCH PROGRESS

The summary of the July 2013 meeting of the NIMH Alliance for Research Progress is now available.

<http://www.nimh.nih.gov/outreach/alliance/alliance-report-july-2013/alliance-for-research-progress-july-12-2013-meeting.shtml>

NIMH GRANTEES TO RECEIVE 2013 LASKER AWARD

A current and a former NIMH grantee recently collected the prestigious 2013 Albert Lasker Basic Medical Research Award for their meticulous mapping of the molecular mechanisms involved in neurotransmitter, the process by which the brain sends and receives chemical messages.

<http://www.nimh.nih.gov/news/science-news/2013/nimh-grantees-to-receive-2013-lasker-award.shtml>

NIH NEWS IN HEALTH: AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER: UNCOVERING CLUES TO A COMPLICATED CONDITION

This *NIH News in Health* story looks at how NIH researchers are working to uncover the secrets of autism.

<http://newsinhealth.nih.gov/issue/Sep2013/Feature1>

SAMHSA RESOURCES

INFOGRAPHIC EXPLORES INTEGRATED HEALTHCARE'S PROMISE

Individuals with mental illnesses die earlier than the general population, and often experience co-occurring health conditions. How can the integration of primary and behavioral healthcare change this? The SAMHSA-Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Center for Integrated Health Solutions (CIHS) infographic explores the problem and illustrates the impact on communities and individuals.

http://www.integration.samhsa.gov/about-us/Integration_Infographic_8.5x30_final.pdf

ARCHIVED ONLINE BROADCAST: THE ROLE OF PSYCHOTROPIC MEDICATION IN CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH

KSOC-TV is a new live, web-based talk show that will break new ground in communicating about mental health and children, youth, and families. These online broadcasts feature behavioral health experts and SAMHSA officials exploring the latest news, trends, and topics of interest to the System of Care community. The first show discussed the role of psychotropic medication in children's mental health.

<http://fda.yorkcast.com/webcast/Viewer/?peid=7c12178094a1441993dabd3ffc2fed8c1d>

UPDATED FACT SHEETS ON SUICIDE AMONG RACIAL/ETHNIC POPULATIONS IN THE UNITED STATES

The Suicide Prevention Resource Center (SPRC) has updated these sheets which summarize data and research on suicide in four main racial/ethnic populations in the United States. They report on suicide deaths; suicidal behavior (attempts and ideation); suicide among adults and youth; strengths and protective factors; and risk factors. <http://www.sprc.org/news-events/the-weekly-spark/weekly-spark-thursday-september-12-2013>

UPDATED REPORT: TEENAGERS AND SUBSTANCE USE

This blog post summarizes SAMHSA's newly updated report, *A Day in the Life of American Adolescents*, a report on adolescent substance use, including initiation of substance use, past year substance use, substance-related emergency department visits, and receipt of substance use treatment.

<http://blog.samhsa.gov/2013/08/29/a-day-in-the-life-of-american-adolescents-teenagers-and-substance-use/>

ARCHIVED WEBINAR: ENGAGING DIVERSE MENTAL HEALTH PERSPECTIVES

This National Dialogue on Mental Health webinar, *Welcoming and Appreciating Diverse Mental Health Perspectives*, offered event organizers advice on language to help facilitate discussing mental health issues and tips on how to reach out to different communities. The PowerPoint and video of the webinar are now available.

PowerPoint: <http://www.creatingcommunitysolutions.org/documents/welcoming-and-appreciating-diverse-mental-health-perspectives-powerpoint>

Video: <http://www.creatingcommunitysolutions.org/resources/video-welcoming-and-appreciating-diverse-perspectives-mental-health>

DIALOGUE: FOCUSE ON PREPAREDNESS

The latest issue of *The Dialogue* focuses on the "Preparedness" theme and highlights three important topics that can be addressed well before a disaster occurs. First, this issue highlights lessons learned from a former SAMHSA employee as she participated in incident command with the Agency after the 2005 hurricanes. The journal then shares information on the importance of self-care for disaster behavioral health responders—before, during, and after an incident. The final article stresses the importance of preparing accurate, timely messages in advance of a radiological incident.

http://www.samhsa.gov/dtac/dialogue/Dialogue_Vol9_%20Issue4.pdf

NEW TOOLKIT TO COMBAT OPIOID OVERDOSE

SAMHSA has developed a toolkit to educate first responders, physicians, patients, family members, and community members on ways to prevent opioid overdose, as well as how to use a drug called naloxone to prevent overdose-related deaths. <http://blog.samhsa.gov/2013/08/28/new-toolkit-will-combat-opioid-overdose/>

INFORMATION ABOUT MEMORY LOSS AND ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE NOW IN SPANISH

Spanish versions of two easy-to-read guides are now available from the National Institute on Aging's Alzheimer's Disease Education and Referral Center. Short vignettes, resources for more information, and definitions of important terms are included in these online-only guides.

ENTENDIENDO LA PÉRDIDA DE MEMORIA (UNDERSTANDING MEMORY LOSS)

This guide describes the differences between mild forgetfulness and more serious memory problems, possible causes of memory loss, and how to seek help.

<http://www.nia.nih.gov/espanol/publicaciones/entendiendo-la-perdida-de-memoria>

ENTENDIENDO LA ENFERMEDAD DE ALZHEIMER (UNDERSTANDING ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE)

This guide discusses the signs of Alzheimer's, when to see the doctor, treatments for the disease, and help for caregivers. <http://www.nia.nih.gov/espanol/publicaciones/entendiendo-la-enfermedad-de-alzheimer>

AHRQ RESOURCES

ATLAS OF INTEGRATED BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CARE QUALITY MEASURES

Created by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), the Atlas is a framework for understanding measurement of integrated care. It includes a list of existing measures relevant to integrated behavioral healthcare, and the Atlas organizes the measures by the framework and by user goals in order to facilitate selection of measures. <http://integrationacademy.ahrq.gov/atlas>

FINAL RESEARCH PLAN: SCREENING FOR MAJOR DEPRESSIVE DISORDER IN CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS

The U.S. Preventive Services Task Force posted a final Research Plan on screening for childhood major depressive disorder among children and adolescents.

<http://www.uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/uspstf13/chlddepr/chlddrpfinalresplan.htm>

ACF RESOURCES ON CHILD WELFARE

CHILD WELFARE OUTCOMES 2008–2011: REPORT TO CONGRESS

This report from the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) to Congress provides information on the performance of states in seven child welfare outcome categories and also includes data on contextual factors and findings of analyses conducted across states.

<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb/resource/cwo-08-11>

WHAT IS CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT? RECOGNIZING THE SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS

This factsheet outlines the legal definition of child abuse and neglect, the different types of abuse and neglect, and the signs and symptoms of abuse and neglect. Resources about the impact of trauma on well-being also are included. <https://www.childwelfare.gov/pubs/factsheets/whatiscan.cfm>

LONG-TERM CONSEQUENCES OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

This factsheet explains the long-term physical, psychological, behavioral, and societal consequences of child abuse and neglect. https://www.childwelfare.gov/pubs/factsheets/long_term_consequences.cfm

PREVENTING CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

This factsheet provides information on how communities and individual citizens can strengthen families, protect children, and prevent child abuse and neglect.

<https://www.childwelfare.gov/pubs/factsheets/preventingcan.cfm>

DCOE BLOG POSTS

NAVY MEDICINE CHAPLAIN OFFERS COMPASSION FOR SUICIDE PREVENTION

In this blog post a chaplain with the U.S. Navy describes his experience addressing suicide prevention. Chaplains can provide a relationship and opportunity for desperate individuals to discuss their fears and concerns about suicide. http://www.dcoe.health.mil/blog/13-09-11/Navy_Medicine_Chaplain_Offers_Compassion_for_Suicide_Prevention.aspx

HEALTHY LIFESTYLE PROGRAM CHALLENGES MILITARY COMMUNITY TO EAT HEALTHY, EXERCISE MORE, AND SMOKE LESS

This Defense Centers of Excellence for Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury (DCoE) blog post describes a Defense Department initiative, *Operation Live Well*, to support healthy lifestyles of service members and their families with its healthy living initiative. The health and wellness campaign targets every individual in the military community — service members, their families, and civilians — and encourages everyone to adopt positive habits that promote good health. On the Military Health System website, one can access tools, information and resources including tips to make better food choices, stay physically active, quit or avoid tobacco, and stay mentally fit. The site also helps individuals develop personalized health plans with physical activity, nutrition, and mental wellness tools and mobile apps.

[http://www.dcoe.health.mil/blog/13-09-](http://www.dcoe.health.mil/blog/13-09-09/Healthy_Lifestyle_Program_Challenges_Military_Community_to_Eat_Healthy_Exercise_More_and_Smoke_Less.aspx)

[09/Healthy_Lifestyle_Program_Challenges_Military_Community_to_Eat_Healthy_Exercise_More_and_Smoke_Less.aspx](http://www.dcoe.health.mil/blog/13-09-09/Healthy_Lifestyle_Program_Challenges_Military_Community_to_Eat_Healthy_Exercise_More_and_Smoke_Less.aspx)

EVENTS

NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH

SEPTEMBER 2013

September is National Preparedness Month and the Federal Emergency Management Agency invites everyone to join the *National Preparedness Community* and download the *2013 National Preparedness Month Toolkit*. The National Preparedness Community is where more than 32,000 people connect and collaborate on emergency preparedness. Use the community and the Toolkit to prepare and coordinate preparedness activities with family, neighbors, and communities of worship.

<http://community.fema.gov/connect.ti/READYNPM/>

NATIONAL WELLNESS WEEK

SEPTEMBER 16-22, 2013

During National Wellness Week, SAMHSA aims to inspire individuals, families, behavioral health and primary care providers, and peer-run, faith-based, and other community organizations to improve their health behaviors, while also exploring their talents, skills, interests, social connections, and environment to incorporate the Eight Dimensions of Wellness into their lives as part of a holistic lifestyle. National Wellness Week's overarching theme every year is *Living Wellness*, to emphasize that no matter which dimension of wellness one focuses on, the ultimate goal is to live well—within bodies, minds, and communities. The theme also shows that wellness is not static or finite; rather, it's a continuous journey.

<http://www.promoteacceptance.samhsa.gov/10by10/default.aspx>

VETERANS MENTAL HEALTH ONLINE TOWN HALL

SEPTEMBER 16, 2013, 10:00 AM-7:00 PM ET

In partnership with Creating Community Solutions, part of the National Dialogue on Mental Health, Congressman Ron Barber (Arizona) will host a Veterans Mental Health Online Town Hall using the Civic Commons platform. The online town hall will be a national conversation in which anyone can participate to discuss Veterans' mental health. Post questions, share stories, and participate in this online dialogue with the Congressman. <http://www.creatingcommunitysolutions.org/veterans-mental-health-online-town-hall>

PUBLIC HEALTH GRAND ROUNDS: TECHNOLOGY AND HEALTH: AGING SAFELY AND MORE INDEPENDENTLY

SEPTEMBER 17, 2013, 1:00-2:00 PM ET

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is presenting this grand rounds event for participants to learn how technology, including the proliferation of new technologies, is being designed and tested to help older adults remain healthy and live independently. <http://www.cdc.gov/about/grand-rounds/>

WEBINAR: RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS—INTERPERSONAL THEORY OF SUICIDE

SEPTEMBER 17, 2013, 10:30 AM-12:00 PM ET

This SAMHSA webinar in the *Current and Promising Research Highlights* series includes presentations by Thomas Joiner and Peter Wyman. Dr. Joiner, Ph.D., Robert O. Lawton Distinguished Professor, Department of Psychology, Florida State University, will discuss his work on the Interpersonal Theory of Suicide. Dr. Wyman, Ph.D., Department of Psychology, University of Rochester Medical Center, will comment on the implications of Joiner's theory for prevention efforts.

<http://www.wciconferences.com/cprhwebinar/index.html>

WEBINAR: THE ROLE OF FAITH LEADERS IN SUICIDE PREVENTION

SEPTEMBER 17, 2013, 4:00-5:00 PM ET

The HHS Center for Faith-based and Neighborhood Partnerships and the National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention's Faith Communities Task Force present this webinar for faith leaders who are often on the front line for people dealing with spiritual, mental, or emotional distress or illness. This webinar will provide information that faith leaders need to know in suicide prevention (e.g., warning signs, how to help). It also will offer ways faith leaders can help educate their communities about suicide and mental health issues, and provide support for persons whose loved ones have completed or attempted suicide. In addition, it will help faith leaders understand and strengthen the resources they have in their own faith tradition that promote mental and spiritual health and/or can help in suicide prevention. Space is limited.

<https://www4.gotomeeting.com/register/828816927>

WEBINAR: PTSD, MILITARY SEXUAL TRAUMA, AND PRETERM BIRTH—EVIDENCE FROM 16,000 PREGNANCIES

SEPTEMBER 18, 2013, 2:00-3:00 PM ET

This VA Health Services Research and Development webinar presents the findings from an analysis of the over 16,000 deliveries (12 percent with active post-traumatic stress disorder [PTSD] diagnoses) covered by the VA since 2000, to determine the extent to which post-traumatic stress is associated with preterm birth. Preterm delivery rates are found to be significantly higher in those with an active diagnosis of PTSD, and this association remained in a multivariate analysis that included adjustment for history of deployment and military sexual trauma, and was a stronger predictor than alternative mental health diagnoses.

<http://www.hsrd.research.va.gov/cyberseminars/registration.cfm?SessionID=733>

WEBINAR: WALKING THROUGH THE NATIONAL DIALOGUE TOOLKIT

SEPTEMBER 19, 2013, 12:00-1:00 PM ET

SAMHSA and the White House recently released the discussion guide, information brief, and planning guide for National Dialogue on Mental Health events. Learn how these resources can help promote, structure, and inform a local discussion or planning process on mental health issues in this Creating Community Solutions webinar. Space is limited. <https://attendeegotowebinar.com/register/511748248963587841>

WEBINAR: INTEGRATING BEHAVIORAL HEALTH IN PRIMARY CARE: LESSONS FROM HEALTH CENTERS

SEPTEMBER 19, 2013, 1:30-2:30 PM ET

Integrating behavioral health services into a primary care practice involves elements such as adjusting staff roles, workflows, and getting significant stakeholder buy-in. In this webinar, two health centers, Tillamook in Oregon and Manet in Massachusetts, will share their lessons learned in establishing integrated care, including what they gained regarding leadership, partnership development, business strategies, and program sustainability. Over the past year, these centers participated in the Behavioral Health Integration Learning Community supported by the SAMHSA-HRSA CIHS, and jointly run with the National Association of Community Health Centers. <http://www.integration.samhsa.gov/about-us/webinars>

WEBINAR: A STRATEGIC APPROACH TO SUICIDE PREVENTION IN HIGH SCHOOLS

SEPTEMBER 23, 2013, 3:00-4:30 PM ET

This SPRC and SAMHSA webinar will provide an overview of the research on school-based suicide prevention programs and identify resources that can be helpful in developing and implementing a program. In addition, it will offer examples of how two states developed programs to prevent suicide in a variety of school systems, including those serving ethnically diverse students. While this webinar focuses on high schools, some of the information may be applicable to any grade level. In this webinar, participants working to prevent suicide will learn how to: explain how a strategic approach to suicide prevention can be used in high schools; identify resources for use as part of a strategic approach; and describe the efforts of two states to be strategic and culturally-appropriate in their approach to school-based suicide prevention.

<http://www.sprc.org/training-institute/r2p-webinars/strategic-approach-suicide-prevention-schools>

SAMHSA VOICE AWARDS

SEPTEMBER 25, 2013, 7:00-9:30 PM PT, HOLLYWOOD, CALIFORNIA

Join SAMHSA and its Voice Awards program partners to honor consumer/peer leaders in recovery from mental and/or substance use disorders, as well as television and film professionals, for their collective efforts to educate the public about the real experiences of people with behavioral health problems. Attendees will have the opportunity to engage in a dynamic conversation with the entertainment industry about important behavioral health issues and celebrate Voice Award-winning community leaders and productions. <http://www.voiceawardsRSVP.org>

WEBINAR: POLYVICTIMIZATION AND SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF YOUNG BOYS AND MEN

SEPTEMBER 26, 2013, 3:00 PM ET

This National Child Traumatic Stress Network (NCTSN) webinar will examine the nuances of polyvictimization as it relates to the commercial sexual exploitation of both boys and men.

http://learn.nctsn.org/calendar/view.php?view=day&cal_d=26&cal_m=9&cal_y=2013

WEBINAR: INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE AND SUICIDE

SEPTEMBER 27, 2013, 2:00-3:45 PM ET

This is the second webinar in webinar series about intimate partner violence and suicide sponsored by SAMHSA's Suicide Prevention Branch. Nadine Kaslow, Emory University School of Medicine; Marylouise Kelley, ACF Family Violence Prevention & Services Program; and Carole Warshaw, National Training and TA Center for Domestic Violence, Trauma, and Mental Health will present.

<http://www.wciconferences.com/ipv2/index.html>

WEBINAR: NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR SUICIDE PREVENTION: CHANGING THE PUBLIC CONVERSATION ABOUT SUICIDE AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

SEPTEMBER 30, 2013, 2:00-3:30PT ET

This SAMHSA webinar will discuss initiatives that are advancing the National Action Alliance for the National Strategy for Suicide Prevention-*Strategic Direction 1 on Healthy and Empowered Individuals, Families and Communities*. It will provide an overview, strategic framework, and application examples of The Jed Foundation's *Love is Louder* and New York University's *LiveWellNYU* campaigns, initiatives that are changing the public conversation about suicide and suicide prevention. Registration not required; just join the live meeting webinar on the day of meeting. Participants can automatically join the event directly by clicking on the link below at: <https://www.mymeetings.com/nc/join.php?i=PW7435398&p=2427890&t=c>

- Dial in: Toll Free number: 888-469-0981 to access audio for webinar
- Conference number: PW7435398
- Audience pass code: 2427890
- Enter Name, Email, and Program (in the Company tab)

Call 1-800-857-8777 for technical issues.

THIRD ANNUAL FDA HEALTH PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS CONFERENCE

OCTOBER 24, 2013, 8:00 AM-12:00 PM ET, SILVER SPRING, MARYLAND

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is hosting a conference for representatives of health professional organizations. Topics on the agenda include FDA Updates, an overview of FDA's Network of Experts (public/private partnerships), and a FDA Town Hall. RSVP by September 30, 2013.

<http://www.cvent.com/events/third-annual-fda-health-professional-organizations-conference/invitation-0cce20cdcfc545a793e1b535eeeb0421.aspx>

SAVE THE DATE: NATIONAL DRUG FACTS WEEK 2014

JANUARY 27, 2014-FEBRUARY 2, 2014

As the school year begins, the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) encourages educators, community groups, and parents to begin planning events for the fourth annual National Drug Facts Week in the last week of January. Hundreds of educational events are expected around the country to connect teens with scientific experts in the drug abuse field. Coordinated by NIDA, National Drug Facts Week encourages and stimulates community-based events where teens ask questions of addiction scientists or health experts. Events can be sponsored by a variety of organizations, including schools, community groups, sports clubs, and hospitals. Topics for discussion include the science behind illicit drug use, prescription drug abuse, and use of alcohol and tobacco. Event holders who register will receive free booklets with science-based facts about drugs, designed specifically for teens. <http://www.nih.gov/news/health/sep2013/nida-09.htm>

CALLS FOR PUBLIC INPUT

PROVIDE FEEDBACK ON THE NATIONAL BEHAVIORAL HEALTH QUALITY FRAMEWORK

SAMHSA's National Behavioral Health Quality Framework is a set of core and supplemental measures to help: inform an agency's or system's funding and quality improvement decisions; monitor the behavioral health of the Nation; and provide a way to examine and prioritize quality prevention, treatment, and recovery measures at the payer, provider/practitioner, and patient/population levels. The draft Framework measures were developed with stakeholder input and continue to be a work in progress. The public is invited to review the draft Framework and provide comments. Feedback will be accepted through September 17, 2013.

http://store.samhsa.gov/NBHQ/feedback/?WT.mc_id=EB_20130827_NBHQFeedback

HHS STRATEGIC PLAN (2014-2018): DRAFT FOR PUBLIC AND CONGRESSIONAL CONSULTATION

Every four years, HHS updates its strategic plan, which describes its work to address complex, multifaceted, and ever-evolving health and human service issues. Under the Government Performance and Results Modernization Act, Federal agencies are required to consult with the Congress and to solicit and consider the views of external parties. HHS welcomes input on the draft *HHS Strategic Plan for FY 2014-2018*. The comment period will close on October 15, 2013. <http://www.hhs.gov/open/recordsandreports/strategic-plan/index.html>

FUNDING INFORMATION

DEVELOPMENT OF APPROPRIATE PEDIATRIC FORMULATIONS AND DRUG DELIVERY SYSTEMS

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-13-345.html> (R43)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-13-346.html> (R41)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-13-326.html> (R21)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-13-344.html> (R03)

MECHANISMS OF ALCOHOL AND STIMULANT CO-ADDICTION

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-13-339.html> (R01)

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-13-340.html> (R21)



National Institute
of Mental Health

The **Outreach Partnership Program** is a nationwide outreach initiative of the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) that enlists state and national organizations in a partnership to help close the gap between mental health research and clinical practice, inform the public about mental illnesses, and reduce the stigma and discrimination associated with mental illness. For more information about the program please visit: <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/outreach/partnership-program/index.shtml>. To subscribe to receive the **Update** every two weeks, go to: <http://www.nimh.nih.gov/outreach/partnership-program/news-and-updates-from-the-program.shtml>.

The information provided in the **Update** is intended for use by NIMH Outreach Partners, National Partners and their associates for the express purpose of exchanging information that may be useful in the development of state and local mental health outreach, information, education and partnership programs.